

(Mr. HAGERTY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3487, a bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to increase death gratuities and funeral allowances for Federal employees, and for other purposes.

S. 3522

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3522, a bill to provide enhanced authority for the President to enter into agreements with the Government of Ukraine to lend or lease defense articles to that Government to protect civilian populations in Ukraine from Russian military invasion, and for other purposes.

S. 3532

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, his name and the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3532, a bill to require the imposition of sanctions with respect to Ansarallah and its officials, agents, or affiliates for acts of international terrorism.

S.J. RES. 1

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE), the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ), the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY), the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. Kaine), the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN), the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH), the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH), the Senator from

Arizona (Ms. SINEMA), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJAN), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER), the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 1, a joint resolution removing the deadline for the ratification of the equal rights amendment.

S.J. RES. 32

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 32, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services relating to "Medicare and Medicaid Programs; Omnibus COVID-19 Health Care Staff Vaccination".

S. RES. 377

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 377, a resolution urging the European Union to designate Hizballah in its entirety as a terrorist organization.

S. RES. 467

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 467, a resolution recognizing the contributions made by the 305-meter radio telescope at the Arecibo Observatory.

S. RES. 493

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 493, a resolution recognizing the necessity of school choice as a tool to empower all parents with the freedom to choose the best educational environment for their children and to combat destructive ideologies like Critical Race Theory promoted by many public schools.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 499—CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE BALTIC STATES

Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BRAUN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. COONS, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. RUBIO, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. REED, and Ms. STABENOW) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 499

Whereas the Baltic States of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania originally declared their independence in 1918;

Whereas, in 1920, Soviet Russia signed treaties with Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania recognizing their sovereignty and renouncing all territorial claims over each Baltic State in perpetuity;

Whereas the United States established diplomatic relations with Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania as independent countries on July 28, 1922, and the United States and the Baltic States have grown strong as partners for the past century;

Whereas, on August 23, 1939, the Soviet Union and Nazi Germany signed the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact, which contained a secret protocol dividing Eastern Europe into spheres of influence, with the Baltic States ultimately being assigned to the Soviet Union, leading soon after to the forcible incorporation of the Baltic States into the Soviet Union;

Whereas, following World War II, the Soviet Union forcibly occupied the Baltic States, imposing its model of Soviet totalitarianism for more than 5 decades;

Whereas the United States never recognized the illegal occupation of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania by the Soviet Union, instead maintaining 100 years of continuous diplomatic relations with the Baltic States;

Whereas, in August 1989, approximately 2,000,000 people joined hands in Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania to form a 373-mile human chain across the 3 states known as the Baltic Chain of Freedom;

Whereas, in February 1990, the people of Lithuania participated in the first free election to select a new parliament, which promptly voted to restore independence, making Lithuania the first occupied Soviet republic to declare independence on March 11, 1990, a move subsequently followed by Latvia on May 4, 1990, and Estonia on August 20, 1991;

Whereas, in January 1991, Soviet military forces tried to quash the growing independence restoration movement, leading to approximately 14 Lithuanian deaths, 6 Latvian deaths, and many injuries;

Whereas, in February and March 1991, the people of Lithuania, Estonia, and Latvia voted overwhelmingly in support of their respective independence restoration referendums, which the United States recognized later that year;

Whereas the Baltic States helped pave the path for democracy and freedom across Eastern Europe, leading to the fall of the Soviet Union;

Whereas, after the restoration of independence, the economies of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania emerged as modern market economies leading in technology and financial services sectors;

Whereas Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania continue to demonstrate their commitment to advancing democratic values, peace, and security through their membership and active participation in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), the European Union, and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development;

Whereas the Baltic States have been loyal NATO allies, contributing to regional and global security through operations in Afghanistan and leadership in the NATO Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence in Estonia, the NATO Strategic Communications Centre of Excellence in Latvia, and the NATO Energy Security Centre of Excellence in Lithuania;

Whereas the Baltic States contribute to the security of the Euro-Atlantic area by spending at least 2 percent of gross domestic product for defense and to global security through determined participation in international allied operations and missions;

Whereas Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania were among the first countries to participate

in the National Guard State Partnership Program with the Maryland, Michigan, and Pennsylvania National Guards, respectively, and, since 1993, have provided additional opportunities to enhance National Guard skills and improve interoperability between the United States and Baltic forces;

Whereas, in 2019, the United States and the Baltic States signed the Security Cooperation Roadmaps, outlining joint security cooperation priorities for 2019 to 2024;

Whereas the Baltic States are actively involved in security assistance, promotion of democracy, and protection of human rights across Eastern Europe, including in Ukraine and Belarus, in the face of aggression and an increase of troops in Belarus by the Russian Federation and the manipulation of the migrant crisis in Europe by the Lukashenko regime;

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation has pursued an aggressive disinformation campaign in the Baltic States, including intimidation of Western civilians and troops stationed in Europe and abroad via hacking, propaganda, and other cyberattacks, and has increased air provocations in Eastern Europe;

Whereas, since the restoration of independence, Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania have faced considerable aggressive behavior, intimidation, and cyberattacks from the Russian Federation and, as a result, have worked to shape total defense strategies to counter intervention by the Russian Federation;

Whereas, after building trade ties with Taiwan, the Government of Lithuania has faced severe economic and diplomatic coercion from the People's Republic of China;

Whereas the Government of the People's Republic of China has brazenly imposed a customs blockade on products from Lithuania and imports containing Lithuanian parts, with the European Union considering taking the matter to the World Trade Organization as a violation of international trade rules;

Whereas, on December 21, 2021, in a call with Prime Minister of Lithuania Ingrida Simonyte, Secretary of State Tony Blinken underscored the ironclad solidarity of the relationship of the United States with Lithuania as Lithuania faces geopolitical challenges to regional stability, security, and economic prosperity;

Whereas, on January 5, 2022, at a joint press conference with Foreign Minister of Germany Annalena Baerbock, Secretary of State Blinken added, "We have immediate concern about the Government of China's attempts to bully Lithuania, a country of fewer than three million people. China is pushing European and American companies to stop building products with components made in Lithuania or risk losing access to the Chinese market, all because Lithuania chose to expand their cooperation with Taiwan.";

Whereas, on January 24, 2022, the Secretary of Defense put 8,500 members of the Armed Forces on high alert for potential deployment to Eastern Europe as part of a NATO response force;

Whereas support for the Baltic States by the United States remains a crucial factor for countering such economic and diplomatic coercion by the Government of the People's Republic of China and ensuring security in the Baltic States and complements the efforts of NATO to strengthen its deterrence and defense posture, including an enhancing its forward presence in the eastern part of the NATO Alliance with multinational battlegroups;

Whereas the Baltic States have been models for democratic governance with strong institutions and respect for civil liberties

and the rule of law, which are cherished shared values between the Baltic States and the United States; and

Whereas, since the restoration of independence, the democratic and economic development and progress of the Baltic States has established Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania as 3 shining beacons for freedom: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) celebrates 100 years of continuous diplomatic relations between the United States and Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania;

(2) looks forward to continued growth in diplomatic relations between the Baltic States and the United States;

(3) commits to providing continued support for the Baltic States through economic and security cooperation, including through the Baltic Security Initiative, further strengthening transatlantic ties and regional presence through the North Atlantic Treaty Organization;

(4) recognizes the courage and resilience of the people of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania in their fight for freedom and democracy in the face of aggressive behavior by the Russian Federation;

(5) stands in solidarity with Lithuania against economic and diplomatic coercion by the People's Republic of China; and

(6) expresses the wish that the next 100 years of friendship between the Baltic States and the United States continue to build on the positive achievements and progress made since the Baltic States restored their independence.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that privileges of the floor be granted to Jeffrey Warner, my State Department fellow, for the duration of his time as a fellow.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2022

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, February 1; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; that upon the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the Brennan nomination, postcloture; further, that all postcloture time on the Brennan nomination expire at 11:30 a.m.; that the Senate recess following the cloture vote on the Fleming nomination until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly caucus meetings; that if cloture is invoked on the Fleming nomination, all postcloture time expire at 2:15 p.m.; finally, if any nominations are confirmed during Tuesday's session, that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, for the information of Senators, there will be two votes at 11:30 a.m. and two votes at 2:15 p.m., with additional rollcall votes expected.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:49 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, February 1, 2022, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

NORTHERN BORDER REGIONAL COMMISSION

CHRIS SAUNDERS, OF VERMONT, TO BE FEDERAL CO-CHAIRPERSON OF THE NORTHERN BORDER REGIONAL COMMISSION, VICE HAROLD B. PARKER.

NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

DEBORAH R. COEN, OF CONNECTICUT, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE HUMANITIES FOR A TERM EXPIRING JANUARY 26, 2028, VICE JEAN M. YARBROUGH, TERM EXPIRED.

CHRISTINE M. KIM, OF COLORADO, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE HUMANITIES FOR A TERM EXPIRING JANUARY 26, 2026, VICE DAVID ARMAND DEKEYSER, TERM EXPIRED.

KAREN ANN STOUT, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE HUMANITIES FOR A TERM EXPIRING JANUARY 26, 2026, VICE WILLIAM SCHNEIDER, JR., TERM EXPIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

LAWANDA AMAKER TONEY, OF MARYLAND, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH, DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, VICE PETER CUNNINGHAM.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

VANESSA ROBERTS AVERY, OF CONNECTICUT, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF CONNECTICUT FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE JOHN H. DURHAM, RESIGNED.

TRINA A. HIGGINS, OF UTAH, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF UTAH FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE JOHN W. HUBER, RESIGNED.

JESSE A. LASLOVICH, OF MONTANA, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF MONTANA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE KURT G. ALME, RESIGNED.

S. LANE TUCKER, OF ALASKA, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF ALASKA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE BRYAN D. SCHRODER, RESIGNED.

ALEXANDER M.M. UBALLEZ, OF NEW MEXICO, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE JOHN C. ANDERSON, RESIGNED.

PRIVACY AND CIVIL LIBERTIES OVERSIGHT BOARD

BETH ANN WILLIAMS, OF NEW JERSEY, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE PRIVACY AND CIVIL LIBERTIES OVERSIGHT BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING JANUARY 29, 2026, VICE ADITYA BAMZAI, TERM EXPIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JANE E. YOUNG, OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE SCOTT W. MURRAY, RESIGNED.

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be brigadier general

COL. DAVID W. BENNETT
COL. KARL S. BOWERS, JR.
COL. SHAWN G. RYAN

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be brigadier general

COL. ROBERT M. SAGE

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE